

Moreover, I could keep a small one, deflated and rolled-up, inside jacket as a comfortable phantom pillion seat. Prices range from €160-€182 depending on size, but a less expensive urethane option is available in slightly different sizes and with an eighteen month warranty for between €89 and €104.

/Andy

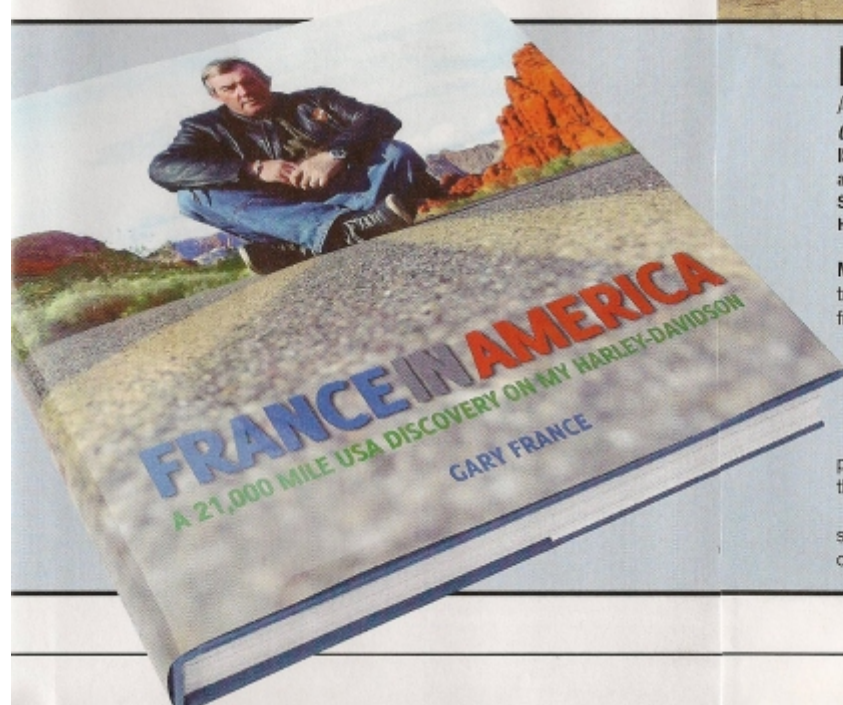


got the space to mount them: each is about the size of a Harley cowbell.

And then you've got air. Not "La

could make a feature of, on the right side, of my Dodge Ram or Harley special edition F150.

I've posted a quick track that shows how they compare to the Showel and the Vegas' stock offering, as well as each other – scan the QR code or go to <http://youtu.be/Pv-tn60CebU> – and if you're looking for something simpler, you can always check out the other options on Valkmotive's site. /Andy



FRANCE IN AMERICA

A 21,000 mile USA discovery on my Harley-Davidson

Gary France

ISBN 978-616-321-082-1

available only from www.garysfrance.com

Softback: £27.50 UK / £43.50 RoW

Hardback: £49.50 UK / \$79.50 RoW

Many people reading this will have it in their head to make that epic road trip across America; to see the wonders of that vast country first hand, and from the saddle of a motorcycle: Gary France did, and he did it in style. He took early retirement from the business he'd helped build up, and set about making up for many years watching his contemporaries do what they pleased while he threw himself into a career to support first his mother and then his own family.

And not content with living off his memories, supported by a thousand photographs, he then published a 12"x12" coffee table book of the journey that runs to more than 400 pages.

It's very much a personal journey that takes America at face value – as seen through the eyes of an outsider – which is supported by a wealth of beautifully reproduced images that he modestly passes off as some

reasonably good shots and others that are no more than snaps, and it makes for a book that can't help but inspire others to follow in his wheeltracks.

Averaging over a thousand miles a week over the course of twenty weeks, there's no massive sense of urgency about his journey which he records in a very matter of fact way, in clear English with a good use of language without being showy – presumably calling upon the blog he kept throughout to fill in the gaps in his memory – and offering snippets of historical background where appropriate without turning it into a history book.

It's a disarmingly simple travelogue, and you come away feeling as though you rode with him, which is helped by a conscious decision to anchor the many pictures in the corresponding text, removing the need for captioning which could otherwise have broken the flow of the narrative. And it's a relentless narrative – which is only fitting in terms of the scale of his undertaking – but is well-paced.

It doesn't just allow, but positively encourages you to dip in and out, state-by-state, sharing his regret that he didn't have chance to spend as much time as he would have liked, and ultimately concluding that there could easily be another two or three books on this scale followed by a series covering each state.

Add to all that a wealth of video footage, referenced in the relevant sections, and you haven't so much got a book as a franchise ... and a permanent resident on your coffee table.

/Andy